

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 24-72 are pending. Independent Claims 1, 24, 40, and 56 are amended. New dependent Claims 68-71 are added. Support for these amendments and additions can be found in the originally filed specification at paragraphs [0036], [0037], [0047], and [0052]-[0055]. Claims 38, 54, and 67 are also amended. Support for these amendments can be found in the originally filed Specification at paragraph [0029]. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 38, 54, and 67 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for containing the terms "proximate" and "proximity."

Applicants have amended claims 38 and 54 to replace the term "proximate" with the phrase "within a perimeter of said trusted network." Similarly, Applicants have amended claim 67 to replace the phrase "physical proximity" with the phrase "location of said portable storage device within a perimeter of said trusted network." Support for the amendments can be found in the originally filed Specification at paragraph [0029]. Therefore, no new matter is added.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 38, 54, and 67 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-10 and 24-67 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Talton, SR. (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2003/0135739) in view of Baize (U.S. Pat. No. 6,317,838). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner relies on Talton, SR. to teach a token (e.g., disk) storing a token identifier in association with a plurality of one time passwords, and an authorizer storing the token identifier in association with information (i.e., start point) useful for authenticating the one time passwords, with encryption key material for decrypting the passwords being split between the authorizer and the token. However, Talton, SR. does not teach, suggest, or motivate a gateway sending a password-specific key to a portable storage device, especially where the Examiner interprets Talton, SR.'s token identifier sent from the token to the authorizer as Applicant's claimed key. In other words, the "key" of Talton, Sr., (i.e., the token identifier) is neither sent to the portable storage device, nor password-specific.

The Examiner relies on Baize to teach a firewall between the Internet and a private network, wherein the firewall filters remote requests for secure access to protected resources on the private network. However, Baize does not teach, suggest, or motivate a gateway sending a password-specific key to a portable storage device.

Applicants' claimed invention is generally directed toward secure, remote access to private network resources using a one-time password key device. In particular, Applicants' claimed invention is directed toward a security system in which a gateway communicates a password-specific key associated with one of plural key-password pairs to a remote client communicate a password to the gateway based on input from the user and based on the password-specific key communicated from the gateway. For example, independent claim 1, especially as amended, recites, "communicate a password-specific key associated with one of said key-password pairs ... communicate said at least one password ... based on input from the user and based on said password-specific key." Independent claims 24, 40, and 56, especially as amended, recite similar subject matter. Therefore, Talton, SR. and Baize, especially as amended, fail to teach, suggest, or motivate all of the limitations of the independent claims. These differences are significant.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of independent claims 1, 24, 40, and 56 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), along with rejection on these grounds of all claims dependent therefrom.

NEW CLAIMS 68-71

Applicants believe that new claims 68-71 are patentable over the cited references, Talton, SR. and Baize for several reasons. For example, new claims 68-71 depend from base claims 1, 24, 40, and 56, which are allowable for reasons detailed above. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner allow new dependent claims 68-71.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Aug 31, 2006

By: Gregory Stobbs
Gregory A. Stobbs, Reg. No. 28,764

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

GAS/JSB/kup